Message Text

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R 042218Z MAR 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY OSLO INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BTIO, NO

SUBJECT: TRANSWORLD GAS SYSTEMS, WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA REQUESTS GUIDANCE IN OFFERING SERVICES TO NORWEGIAN GOVT

- 1. TRANSWORLD GAS SYSTEMS (TGS), 15111 E. WHITTIER BOULEVARD, WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA 90603 IS AN ORGANIZATION OF LESS THAN 10 PEOPLE FOUNDED IN 1971 TO PROVIDE CONSULTING SERVICES TO PRODUCERS AND GOVERNMENTS FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND PROGRAMS TO DEVELOP ENERGY SOURCES, ESPECIALLY NATURAL GAS. TGS IS ALSO INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING AS AN INVESTOR IN PROJECTS WHERE FEASIBLE, AND IS SEEKING ASSISTANCE FROM COMMERCE'S FOREIGN INVESTMENT SERVICES STAFF.
- 2. IN MARCH 1974, TGS, THROUGH A SHIPPING OWNER FRIEND IN BERGEN, PRESENTED A PRELIMINARY PROJECT FEASIBILITY STUDY TO THE MANAGEMENT OF STATOIL ENTITLED NATURAL GAS FOR NORWAY AND SWEDEN VIA NORTH SEA LNG PROJECT. A COPY OF THE STUDY ALONG WITH A JANUARY 22, 1975 LETTER FROM TGS TO COMMERCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IS BEING SENT BY AIR POUCH.

- 3. TGS STATES THEY HAVE NOT HAD ANY POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THEIR PROPOSAL AND REQUESTS ASSISTANCE IN CONTACTING THE PROPER AUTHORITY IN NORWAY FOR A CHANCE TO PRESENT THEIR PROJECT IDEAS.
- 4. AS APPROPRIATE, THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO INVESTIGATE THE STATUS OF TGS'S PROPOSAL AND PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS FOR FISS TO PASS TO TGS.
- 5. TGS IS A SUBSIDIARY OF PARGAS, INC., OF WALDORF, MD. A LEADING CREDIT SERVICE REPORTS THAT PARAGAS HAS \$90 MILLION IN ANNUAL SALES AND 2200 EMPLOYEES. WE HAVE ORDERED AN ADDITIONAL REPORT ON THE BONA FIDES OF TGS'S PERSONNEL AND WILL ADVISE THE EMBASSY WHEN THAT INFORMATION IS RECEIVED. DECON FOL 3/3/76. KISSINGER

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